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AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980; AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980	

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BY

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310**

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (13 Dec 67) FOR OT RD-670804

19 December 1967

**SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st
Battalion, 30th Artillery, Period Ending 31 July 1967**

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation by USACDC in accordance with paragraph 6f, AR 1-19 and by USCONARC in accordance with paragraph 6c and d, AR 1-19. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from Lessons Learned during current operations, and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

**KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General**

1 Incl
as

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DEC 29 1967

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
1ST BATTALION 30TH ARTILLERY
APO 96238

AVGK-AE-C

1 August 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967.

TO: See Distribution

SECTION I (C) SIGNIFICANT ORGANIZATION OR UNIT ACTIVITIES

1. (C) General.

a. During the period of 1 May 1967 to 31 July 1967, the 1st Battalion, 30th Artillery continued to support Free World Military Assistance Forces in the I and II Corps Tactical Zones under operational control of the 1st Cavalry Division (AM) in OPERATION PERSHING.

b. Battery A, 3rd Battalion, 18th Artillery remained attached at the beginning of the period. This battery was detached on 7 May 1967. On 8 May 1967, Battery C, 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery was attached to the Battalion and entered the PERSHING A/O. The battalion with its attached units had the mission of general support 1st Cavalry Division (AM) with batteries reinforcing the division's direct support battalions. During the entire period from 1 May 1967, to 31 July 1967, the battalion expended 105,760 rounds receiving credit for 67 NVA/VC confirmed KIA's.

c. The battalion continued its additional mission of providing the fire support coordination center for the LZ English-Dog complex during the period.

d. On 15 May 1967, Battery A fired the battalion's 200,000th round in the Republic of Vietnam. On 1 June 1967, Battery C fired the battalion's 100,000th round in support of OPERATION PERSHING which began on 14 February 1967.

e. Major Robert W. Blum took command of the 1st Battalion, 30th Artillery, on 2 June 1967, vice LTC Horace L. Hunter who had commanded the battalion since October 1966. On 13 July 1967, Major John G. Klock took command of the battalion. Both change of command ceremonies took place at LZ English, Republic of Vietnam, (BS884007).

2. (C) Intelligence.

During OPERATION PERSHING, intelligence information was obtained by daily intelligence liaison visits to 1st Cavalry Division (AM) Artillery, DTOC, G-2, IPE Team, 22nd ARVN Division, 40th ARVN Regt, VNMK Task Force "A", aerial reconnaissance and committed forward observer parties.

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1 August 1967 4

SUBJECT: ORLL for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967 (Continued).

3. (C) Operation and Training Activities.

a. Headquarters Battery. The battery was located at LZ English (BS884007), with a rear detachment located at Camp Townes (BR972252) during the entire period.

b. Service Battery. Throughout the period, Service Battery supported the battalion from Camp Townes (BR972252). A forward element was maintained at LZ English (BS884007).

c. Battery A.

(1) Battery A was located at LZ Two Bits (BR843945) at the beginning of the period in general support of the 1st Cavalry Division (AM). On 2 May, the battery displaced by air to LZ Sandra (BS800191) with two (2) howitzers combining with two howitzers of Battery C to form Battery D (Provisional) on 5 May 1967. Battery A was given the mission of general support reinforcing the 1st Battalion 21st Artillery. On 24 June the battery's mission was changed to reinforcing the 2nd Battalion, 19th Artillery. On 26 July 1967, the battery returned its general support reinforcing fires to the 1st Battalion, 21st Artillery.

(2) On 11 May, the detached platoon from Battery D was returned to its parent unit. The battery remained at LZ Sandra (BS800191) for the remainder of the period. From 1 May 1967 to 31 July 1967 the battery expended 35,318 rounds receiving credit for 15 NVA/VC KIA's.

d. Battery B.

(1) The battery continued its mission of general support: reinforcing the 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery with the battery located at LZ Uplift (BR923754) and two (2) howitzers located at LZ Crystal (BR893661).

(2) On 11 May 1967, the battery with four (4) howitzers airlifted to LZ Glenn (BS625275) combining with two (2) howitzers of Battery C to provide general support reinforcing fires to 1st Battalion, 21st Artillery. On 2 June 1967, the platoon located at LZ Crystal (BR893661) displaced to LZ English (BS884007) and on 3 June 1967, all elements of the battery moved to LZ Jay (BB714293). The battery's mission was changed to reinforcing the 2nd Battalion, 19th Artillery, on 24 June 1967.

(3) Battery B was heli-lifted to LZ Pony (BR800830) on 26 June 1967 assuming the mission of reinforcing the 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery. On 1 July 1967, the battery displaced to LZ Uplift (BR923754), and on 23 July 1967, the battery further displaced to LZ Crystal (BR893661), retaining its mission. On 26 July 1967, Battery B's mission was changed to general support reinforcing the 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery. During the period, Battery B expended 24,068 rounds and received credit for 18 NVA/VC KIA's.

e. Battery C.

(1) Battery C was located at LZ Laramie (BS790043) for the entire period. The battery's initial mission was general support reinforcing the 1st Battalion, 21st Artillery. On 5 May, two (2) howitzers were air lifted to LZ Glenn (BS625273) returning to their parent battery on 3 June 1967.

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1 August 1967

SUBJECT: ORLL for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967 (Continued).

(2) On 1 June 1967, the mission of Battery C (-) was changed to general support reinforcing the 1st Battalion, 21st Artillery, and resumed the mission of general support reinforcing the 2nd Battalion, 19th Artillery on 24 June. From 26 July 1967 to 31 July 1967, Battery C's mission was general support reinforcing the 1st Battalion, 21st Artillery. During the period, Battery C expended 27,664 rounds of ammunition, and received credit for 7 NVA/VC KIA's.

f. Battery A, 3rd Battalion, 18th Artillery. At the beginning of the period, Battery A was attached to the battalion providing general support to the 1st Cavalry Division (AM). The battery was located at LZ English (BS884007). Battery A was returned to control of its parent unit on 7 May after expending 560 rounds during the 7 day period.

g. Battery C, 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery.

(1) Battery C was attached to the battalion on 8 May 1967. On 10 May 1967, Battery C moved from Camp Townes (BR972252) to LZ Ollie (BR912848). The battery remained at LZ Ollie for the rest of the reporting period.

(2) The initial mission of Battery C in the PERSHING A/O, was general support reinforcing the 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery. On 24 June 1967 the battery's mission was changed to reinforcing the fires of the same unit, and on 26 July 1967, it resumed a general support reinforcing role. During the period, Battery C expended 18,204 rounds, and received credit for 27 NVA/VC KIA's.

4. (C) Logistics.

The logistical support provided by Service Battery 1st Battalion, 30th Artillery during OPERATION PERSHING was geared to aerial resupply. With the firing elements located at distant and remote LZ's, logistical support was accomplished by aerial capabilities. An average of 595 meals, consisting of approximately 90 per cent "A" rations were drawn and issued daily. Class II, III and IV supplies were drawn from the forward support element of the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Cavalry Division (AM), the 1st Logistical Command forward task force located at LZ English, and from the Qui Nhon Depot. Average daily consumption of fuel was, 240 gallons mogas and 110 gallons diesel fuel. Class V supplies were drawn from the ammunition supply points of the firing elements with approximately 80 per cent being delivered by air. Maintenance support was provided by the forward element of the 560th Maintenance Company.

5. (U) Civil Affairs.

During this period, 2,185 Vietnamese patients visited the battalion's Med Cap II team. During the month of May, the Med Cap program was expanded to give medical aid to the Vietnamese civilians and refugees in the greater Bong Son area. In the Bong Son area the team worked in conjunction with medics from the 40th ARVN Regiment. The addition of this area to our program has met with great success. The battalion also began a program of donating soap, candy, and clothing to the orphanages in the Qui Nhon area.

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AVGK-AE-C

SUBJECT: ORLL for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967 (Continued).

1 August 1967 6

6. (C) Personnel.

a. Personnel losses and gains from 1 May 1967 to 31 July 1967 are as follows:

(1) Officers.

<u>LOSSES</u>	<u>GAINS</u>
LTC - 1	
MAJ - 1	MAJ - 2
CPT - 5	CPT - 3
LT - 5	LT - 9
TOTAL 12	14

(2) Enlisted.

<u>LOSSES</u>	<u>GAINS</u>
Gr	
Gr E7 - E9 - 3	5
Gr E1 - E6 - 219	169
TOTAL 222	174

b. Awards and Decorations. The following awards and decorations were made during the reporting period.

- (1) Silver Star - 1
- (2) Bronze Star with "V" Device - 3
- (3) Bronze Star - 1
- (4) Air Medal - 9
- (5) Army Commendation Medal - 12
- (6) Purple Heart - 14

SECTION II (C) COMMANDER'S OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Part I, Observations (Lessons Learned).

1. FO Procedures.

a. Item: Use of "At My Command" during fire missions.

b. Discussion: The term "At My Command" is used by the observer during fire missions when it is necessary to control the time of impact due to observation or safety requirements. Many observers use "At My Command" as a common practice which delays firing. Delays in firing after powder has been inserted will significantly increase the powder temperature causing inconsistent powder performance, which can be critical during registrations...

c. Observations: The observer should control the fire only when observation or safety in the impact area is a over-riding factor.

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Av K-AE-C

1 August 1967

SUBJECT: ORLL for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967 (Continued).

2. Firing Accident.

a. Item: Firing accident involving charge 1 powder increment.

b. Discussion: Recently a firing accident took place when a charge 1 powder increment ignited upon closure of the breech.

c. Observation: After a sustained fire mission using charge 7, the battery received a new mission requiring charge 1. After swabbing the tube, a charge 1 increment was placed in the breech and upon closure of the breech the powder ignited. The apparent cause of the accident was due to the powder increment sliding back in the breech, and being pinched by the breech block causing ignition. Caution must be exercised by units to insure that light powder increments remain in place prior to closure of the breech.

3. Backhaul of Cannisters and Residue.

a. Item: Backhaul of cannisters and residue.

b. Discussion: Backhaul from the forward landing zones must be on a continuous basis to prevent accumulation of cannisters and residue.

c. Observation: To prevent accumulation of backhaul materials a daily delivery of ammunition and other supplies is necessary to provide transportation for backhaul. Cargo nets must be obtained for loose materials and forwarded to the landing zones each day.

SECTION II (C) COMMANDER'S OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

Part II, Commanders Recommendation.

1. (U) Use of "At My Command".

a. Reference Part I, Observation (Lessons Learned) use of "At My Command" during registration.

b. I recommend this procedure to ~~eliminate~~ erratic rounds in registration.

2. (U) Firing Accident.

a. Reference Part I Observation (Lessons Learned) Firing accident involving charge 1 powder increment.

b. I recommend that additional safety training procedures be emphasized to preclude a firing accident of this type.

3. (U) Backhaul of Cannisters and Residue.

a. Reference Part I Observation (Lessons Learned) backhaul of cannisters and residue.

b. I recommend this procedure to prevent accumulation of cannisters and residue. We have found if this procedure is not used, a greater number of aircraft are needed when the unit is required to move on short notice.

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AVCM-AE-C

SUBJECT: ORLL for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967 (Continued).

1 August 1967

John S. Kloke
JOHN G. KLOKE
Major, Artillery
Commanding

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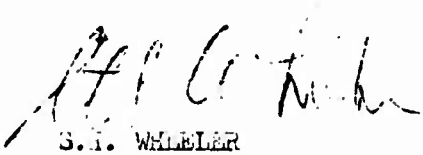
AVGK-CO (1 August 1967) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31
July 1967

HEADQUARTERS 41ST ARTILLERY GROUP, APO 96368, 11 August 1967

TO: Commanding General I Field Forces Vietnam Artillery,
APO 96350

1. (U) In compliance with I Field Force Vietnam Reg 1-3 dated 23 March 1967, the Operational Report of the 1st Bn 30th Artillery for the quarter ending 31 July 1967 is approved and forwarded with the following comment: Section I, par 3f, final sentence should read, "Battery A was attached to the 7th Bn 13th Artillery on 7 May after expending 560 rounds during the 7 day period."

2. (U) Regraded unclassified when separated from classified inclosures.


S. L. WHEELER
Colonel, Artillery
Commanding

incl
as

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AVFA-AT-D (1 Aug 67) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
 Ending 31 July 1967, RCS CSFOR-65 (WA2LA) (1st Bn, 30th Arty) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY, APO 96350 22 August 1967

TO: Commanding General, I Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFA-GC-OT APO 96350

1. Concur with observations and recommendations contained in the basic communication.

2. The requirements outlined in paragraph 5a(1)(C) USARV Reg 1-19 will be emphasized for future reports.

3. 1st Bn, 30th Arty UIC is WA2LA.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

t/LEO E. ELLIS
LTC, Artillery
Adjutant

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AVFA-GC-OT (1 Aug 67) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending
31 July 1967 RCS CSFOR-65 (WA2LA) (1st Bn, 30th Arty) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM, APO 96350

7 Sep 67

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Republic of Vietnam, APO 96375

Concur with the recommendations contained in the basic communication.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

t/JAMES P. GASTON
CPT, AGC
Asst Adj Gen

(**CONFIDENTIAL**)

AVHGC-DST (1 Aug 67) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
31 July 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 NOV 1967

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. (U) This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the period ending 31 July 1967 from Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 30th Artillery (A2LA) as indorsed.

2. (C) Pertinent comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning fire command, page 4, paragraph 1:
Concur. "At my command" should be avoided during the conduct of a fire mission and should only be used when safety in the impact area is the overriding factor.

b. Reference item concerning backhaul of canisters and residue, page 5, paragraph 3: Concur with the requirement to police the area on a continuing basis. It is customary for Army aircraft commanders to seek passengers and/or cargo, mission permitting, when they would otherwise depart empty. Proper coordination by the 1st Battalion, 30th Artillery with the mission aircraft will eliminate this problem.

3. (U) A copy of this indorsement will be furnished to the reporting unit through channels.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

C. S. Nakatani
C. S. NAKATANI
Captain
Assistant

cc:

HQ, I FFORCEV
HQ, 1st Bn, 30th Arty

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GPOP-DT(1 Aug 67)

5th Ind (U)

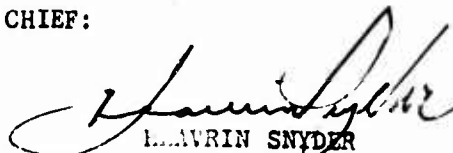
SUBJECT: Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967
from HQ, 1st Bn, 30th Arty (UIC: WA2LAA) (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 1 DEC1967

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding
indorsements and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:


MAURIN SNYDER
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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